## Message Text

## CONFIDENTIAL

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INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 OMB-01 TRSE-00 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /082 W -------151551Z 091631 /46

P R 151442Z APR 77
FM AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7502
INFO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO
AMEMBASSY VICTORIA
AMEMBASSY LONDON

CONFIDENTIAL NAIROBI 4719

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: PINT, KE

SUBJECT: PROSPECTS FOR RESCHEDULING THE KANU ELECTIONS

- 1. PUBLIC COMMENT ON THE ABRUPTLY CANCELLED KANU NATIONAL ELECTIONS, WHICH HAD BEEN SCHEDULED FOR APRIL 3, HAS ALL BUT CEASED. KANU ACTING SECRETARY GENERAL MATANO, HOWEVER, WAS QUOTED IN BRIEF WEEKLY REVIEW ARTICLE THIS WEEK AS HAVING SAID THAT PARTY HEADQUARTERS IS" ...WAITING TO BE TOLD TO GO AHEAD TO PREPARE FOR A NEW ELECTION DATE." EX FOREIGN MINISTER MUNGAI REMARKED TO EMBOFF APRIL 12 THAT NO FURTHER ACTION WILL BE TAKEN WITH RESPECT TO THE KANU ELECTIONS UNTIL SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONS ARE ISSUED BY PRESIDENT KENYATTA. HE GAVE NO HING AS TO WHEN SUCH INSTRUCTIONS MIGHT BE FORTHCOMING, ALTHOUGH HE HAD JUST ACCOMPANIED KENYATTA TO MOMBASA.
- 2. FINANCE MINISTER KIBAKI, WHO IS LEADING CANDIDATE FOR KANU NATIONAL CHAIRMAN, TOLD DCM APRIL 14 THAT A RECOMMENDATION (PRESUMABLY TO THE PRESIDENT) IS BEING CONFIDENTIAL

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PREPARED TO RECESS PARLIAMENT FOR ONE WEEK IN NEAR FUTURE, AND TO RESCHEDULE THE ELECTIONS FOR THAT WEEK. KIBAKI ALSO COMMENTED THAT DESPITE ALL REPORTS AND PROPAGANDA TO CONTRARY, ELECTIONS WERE POSTPONED ONLY AS RESULT OF STATE OF PRESIDENT'S HEALTH AT THE TIME. HE ACKNOWLEDGED PERSONAL DISAPPOINTMENT THAT ELECTIONS NOT HELD AS SCHEDULED.

3. EMBASSY IS UNAWARE OF ANY DEVELOPMENTS WHICH WOULD ALTER PRE-ELECTION PREDICTION THAT VP MOI GROUP IS SOLIDLY IN LEAD. THE INTEREST OF THIS GROUP WOULD THUS BE SERVED IF THE ELECTIONS WERE TO BE RESCHEDULED BEFORE ANYTHING HAPPENS THAT ALTERS PRESENT BALANCE. CONVERSELY, THE KIAMBU KIKUYU LED ANTI-MOI GROUP MIGHT BENEFIT FROM A LENGTHY DELAY. IT APPEARS CLEAR THAT FINAL DECISION ON TIMING OF RESCHEDULED ELECTIONS WILL BE TAKEN BY PRESIDENT.

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## Message Attributes

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**Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED** 

Concepts: PUBLIC ATTITUDES, ELECTION CANCELLATION, PARTY ELECTIONS

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Copy: SINGLE Sent Date: 15-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am

Decaption Note:

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Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW

Disposition Date: 22 May 2009 Disposition Event:

Disposition Event:
Disposition Reason:
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Subject: PROSPECTS FOR RESCHEDULING THE KANU ELECTIONS

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